

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01567 101011Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1567

EXDIS/EXCON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ESTC KS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EXPORT OF VIBRATION TEST EQUIPMENT

REF: STATE 042392

BEGIN SUMMARY: GILMORE INDUSTRIES APPLICATION FOR
LICENSE TO EXPORT TO KOREA VIBRATION TEST EQUIPMENT
THAT HAS ROCKET/MISSILE COMPONENT TEST CAPABILITIES
REPRESENTS ONE PART OF ROK PROGRAM TO BUILD ROCKET/
MISSILE FLIGHT TEST RANGE. EMBASSY JUSMAGK RECOMMEND
APPROVAL THIS APPLICATION, END SUMMARY

1. AS INDICATED IN CHJUSMAG WEEKLY REPORTS WHICH
HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO EA/K, TELEDYNE-BROWN
ENGINEERING CO. OF HUNTSVILLE, ALA. HAS BEEN
NEGOTIATING WITH ROK AGENCY FOR DEFENSE DEVELOPMENT
ON A PROGRAM TO ASSIST IN DEVELOPMENT OF ROK ROCKET/
MISSILE FLIGHT TEST RANGE SINCE FALL OF 1974. ADD
SELECTED A SITE FOR THE RANGE ON WEST COAST OF KOREA
(NORTH OF US-OPERATED SEA RANGE) IN SEPTEMBER.
ORIGINAL SCOPE OF TELEDYNE-BROWN EFFORT WAS TO SELECT,
PROCURE, INSTALL AND TRAIN ROK PERSONNEL TO OPERATE
EQUIPMENT FOR A LAUNCH CONTROL AND TELEMETRY STATION
FOR THE RANGE. DURING RECENT VISIT (WEEK OF 17 FEB 75)
BY TELEDYNE-BROWN REP JEROLD D. WILSON, HE INFORMED
JUSMAG-K THAT ADD HAD REQUESTED SCOPE BE EXPANDED TO
INCLUDE STUDY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR A STATIC FIRING TEST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 01567 101011Z

FACILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TEST FACILITY AS WELL.

THE VIBRATION TEST EQUIPMENT ON ORDER FROM GILMOE INDUSTRIES, ALTHOUGH STILL INTENDED FOR GENERAL PURPOSE

TESTING, WAS SPECIFIED AS ONE ITEM TO BE INSTALLED AS A PART OF THE ROCKET/MISSILE ENVIRONMENTAL TEST FACILITY. TELEDYNE BROWN IS NOW CONDUCTING A \$238,000 PHASE I STUDY TO DEFINE THE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RANGE LAUNCH CONTROL STATION, A COLLOCATED STATIC FIRING TEST FACILITY, AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL TEST FACILITY WHICH WOULD BE LOCATED VICINITY OF TAEJON. PHASES II AND III (PROCUREMENT & DELIVERY; TRAINING & TECH ASSISTANCE) WOULD FOLLOW IF WASHINGTON AGENCIES APPROVES NECESSARY EXPORT LICENSES FOR TELEDYNE BROWN.

2. INITIAL USE OF ALL ABOVE FACILITIES WOULD BE TO TEST SUCCEEDING REFINEMENTS ON ADD-DESIGNED FREE FLIGHT ROCKET, WHICH WAS SUCCESSFULLY FLIGHT-TESTED IN A NON-OPTIMIZED INITIAL CONFIGURATION IN DEC 74. PROGRAM MAY ULTIMATELY LEAD TO SMALL ARTILLERY ROCKET (CONSIDERABLY SMALLER AND CHEAPER THAN HONEST JOHN) WHICH COULD SUPPLEMENT CANNON ARTILLERY AT RANGES OUT TO 40 KILOMETERS.

3. THE ENVIRONMENTAL TEST FACILITY, INCLUDING THE GILMORE VIBRATION EQUIPMENT, WOULD ALSO BE USED TO CERTIFY ROK-LOADED REPLACEMENTS FOR HAWK AND NIKE-HERCULES ROCKET MOTORS AS THEY REACH END OF STORAGE LIVES. THIS IS A NATURAL COMPANION EFFORT TO ROK MISSILE MAINTENANCE (ELECTRONIC/MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE) DEPOT PROJECT NOW UNDERWAY AND IN-COUNTRY ROCKET PROPELLANT MANUFACTURE, WITH OR WITHOUT US SALE OF LOCKHEED PROPELLANT PLANT.

4. BEYOND ABOVE SHORT-TERM ROCKET TEST PLANS, ADD INTENDS TO CONTINUE TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN MISSILE SYSTEM ENGINEERING CAPABILITY. THAT INTENT WAS REITERATED IN BRIEFING GIVEN UNDER SECRETARY MAW DURING HIS VISIT TO ADD IN JAN 1975. TEST FACILITIES DISCUSSED ABOVE WOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT EFFORT.

5. IN VIEW OF PRACTICAL NEAR-TERM USES FOR EQUIPMENT AND FACT THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO CLASSIFICATION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SEOUL 01567 101011Z

PROBLEMS WITH GILMORE-TYPE EQUIPMENT, WHICH CAN ALSO BE OBTAINED FROM THIRD-COUNTRY SOURCES, WE RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF EXPORT LICENSES FOR VIBRATION TEST EQUIPMENT.
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